Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, EC, GW, FR SUBJECT: US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS

- 1. FOLLOWING POINTS WERE DISCUSSED IN MEETING AUGUST 22 BETWEEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL AND FRENCH CHARGE LA GORCE.
- 2. US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. LA GORCE INDICATED HE HAD NOTHING NEW REGARDING GOF ATTITUDES. STOESSEL SAID WE WILL AWAIT WITH INTEREST RESULTS OF SEPTEMBER 10-11 MEETING OF EUROPEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS IN COPENHAGEN. WE ARE NOT TRYING TO IMPOSE ANY DEADLINES. WE HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS SO THAT A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT CAN TAKE PLACE AND A GENERAL SECRET

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DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES SIGNED.

- 3. STOESSEL MENTIONED SECRETARY ROGERS' AUGUST 20 PRESS BRIEFING IN WHICH SECRETARY HAD DISCUSSED GENERAL IDEAS WHICH US THOUGHT IMPORTANT FOR DISCUSSION WITH ALLIES AND POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. IN THIS CONNECTION, STOESSEL STRESSED, WE RECOGNIZE THAT FRANCE'S POSITION WITH REGARD TO US-EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP IS CRUCIAL. WE ARE INTERESTED IN FRENCH VIEWS AND WE REALIZE GOF HAS SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT OUR PROPOSALS. IF THERE ARE QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS, WE HOPE GOF WILL DISCUSS THEM WITH US FRANKLY. LA GORCE TOOK NOTE OF STOESSEL'S OBSERVATIONS.
- 4. PRESIDENT'S AND DR. KISSINGER'S EUROPEAN TRAVEL PLANS. STOESSEL TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY RECENT SPECULATIVE PRESS STORIES -- REPEATED IN FRENCH PRESS --WHICH HAD SET TIME FRAME FOR PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO EUROPE AND HAD NAMED CAPITALS TO BE VISITED. TERMING THESE STORIES TOO SPECIFIC, STOESSEL NOTED THAT WHITE HOUSE PRESS SPOKESMAN WARREN HAD STATED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND PLANS FOR PRESIDENT'S TRIP. STOESSEL SAID PRESIDENT STILL HOPES TO GO TO EUROPE SOMETIME THIS YEAR. MUCH WILL DEPEND ON DEVELOPMENTS. ESPECIALLY EUROPEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN COPENHAGEN NEXT MONTH. STOESSEL ADDED THAT DR. KISSINGER HAS TENTATIVELY ACCEPTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT IN BRUSSELS SEPTEMBER 10. DR. KISSINGER HOPES TO BE ABLE TO MEET THAT COMMITMENT, DEPENDING ON HIS LARGER SCHEDULE. LA GORCE SAID HE APPRECIATED THIS CLARIFICATION.
- 5. SOVIET TESTING OF MIRVS. ASKED TO COMMENT ON SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF SOVIET MIRV TESTING, STOESSEL NOTED THAT SECRETARY ROGERS HAD ALSO DISCUSSED THIS AT HIS AUGUST 20 PRESS BRIEFING, INDICATING THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS FORESEEN AND HARDLY CAME AS A SURPRISE. STOESSEL SAID THIS WILL GIVE GREATER URGENCY TO SECOND PHASE OF SALT TALKS AND MAKE IT MORE CRUCIAL TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF WEAPONRY.
- 6. JOBERT'S ATTENDANCE AT UNGA. LA GORCE SAID HE SECRET

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UNDERSTOOD FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT EXPECTS TO SPEND WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 IN US TO ATTEND UNGA. LA GORCE SAID HE ASSUMED THERE WILL BE USUAL BILATERALS WITH SECRETARY OF STATE. DURING VISIT JOBERT WILL ALSO SPEAK TO COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS ON SEPTEMBER 27.

7. FRG NEGOTIATIONS WITH EE COUNTRIES. ASKED TO COMMENT ON FRG'S CURRENT DIFFICULTIES IN ITS NEGOTIATIONS WITH

PRAGUE, SOFIA AND BUDAPEST, STOESSEL OBSERVED THAT BONN FEELS SOVIET PRESSURE IS BASICALLY BEHIND THIS HARDENING EE STANCE. STOESSEL SAID WE HOPE THESE ISSUES WILL BE RESOLVED BY DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN FRG AND NEGOTIATING PARTNERS. IF NOT, WE MAY WANT TO CONSULT FURTHER WITHIN BONN GROUP TO SEE WHAT STEPS, IF ANY MIGHT BE UNDERTAKEN. RUSH

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